(iii) *Phase*-III: All the remaining Regional Ordnance Depots / Divisional Ordnance Units / Brigade Ordnance Units / Ordnance Maintenance Companies / Ordnance Maintenance Platoons/Technical Store Section by March, 2005.

Social security to workers

*79. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRIMATI CHANDRA KALA PANDEY:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission in the "Approach Paper" for the Ninth Five Year Plan had stated that social security would be provided to workers both in the organised and unorganised sectors and that an Integrated Comprehensive Scheme of Social Security would be evolved by having a single legislation covering all the existing social security schemes; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to achieve the above targets?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATTYA): (a) and (b) Pursuant to the recommendations as contained in the Approach Paper of the Ninth Five Year Plan regarding an integrated comprehensive scheme on social security, a Task Force on Social Security under the Chairmanship of Sh. S.K. Wadhawan was constituted to examine the matter. The Task Force submitted their report in May, 2000.

As the acceptance of recommendations of the Task Force involved heavy financial implication, the entire report of the Task Force has been referred to the Second National Commission on Labour for an in-depth study. Further action can be taken only after the recommendations of the National Commission on Labour become available to the Government.

Sale of rice in non-rice procuring States

*80. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to sell 6.5 lakh tonnes of rice to traders in non-rice procuring States such as Gujarat, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Bihar, Kerala and the North-East;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Food Corporation of India after sending around 60,000 tonnes of rice, abruptly cut-off the supplies;

(c) if so, the reasons therefore; and

(d) what action has been taken against the guilty officers?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR): (a) During September, 2000, the Government had authorised the Food Corporation of India (FCI) to dispose of upto 30 lakh tonnes of rice in open market subject to the following conditions:—

(i) the open sale of rice will be undertaken by the FCI in the consuming States only, *i.e.*, where there is no /negligible procurement of rice for the Central Pool.

(ii) FCI will attempt to dispose of rice procured under relaxed specifications (URS) to the maximum extent possible.

(iii) The sale prices of URS rice of 1998-99 crop and other stocks of rice will be fixed separately by the High Level Committee of the FCI through a transparent mechanism.

Subsequently, during December, 2000, the FCI was authorised to undertake open sale of rice in those States also where rice is procured for the Central Pool, subject to the condition that the price of open sale of rice would not be less than the levy price of rice in those States.

(b) to (d) The sale of rice procured under relaxed specifications (URS) was suspended by the FCI on receipt of certain complaints. Action is being initiated against the erring officials.

Nuclear power plants in South

466. PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state: